

Message Text

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08
OES-07 L-03 DODE-00 COME-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 DOTE-00
SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 /064 W
-----085600 061732Z /47 42

O 061616Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4818
COGARD ONSOD WASHDC
INFO COMDT COGARD WASHDC
CIGARD ACTEUR LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 06351

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: EWWT, US, SP
SUBJ: OMEGA INSTALLATION IN CANARY ISLANDS -
PROPOSED CHANGES IN DRAFT AGREEMENT

REF: MADRID 898, MADRID 5276

1. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMALLY ADVISED BY THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) THAT THE PROPOSED
AGREEMENT BETWEEN USCG AND SUBSECRETARY FOR FISHING
AND MERCHANT MARINE, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS, FOR OMEGA INSTALLATION IN CANARY
ISLANDS MAY NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOS. GIST OF MFA
MESSAGE WAS THAT EITHER COAST GUARD SHOULD BE TAKEN
OUT OF ARRANGEMENT OR OMEGA EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE RE-
MOVED FROM CANARIES. SENSITIVITY OF THE SPANISH GOVERN-
MENT TO ANY SUGGESTION OF FOREIGN MILITARY ACTIVITY
IN CANARIES, MENTIONED IN PREVIOUS CABLES, EXPLAINS
THE MFA POSITION.

2. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THIS LAST MINUTE OBSTACLE
MIGHT BE REMOVED IF ALL REFERENCES IN DRAFT AGREEMENT
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TO "UNITED STATES COAST GUARD" CAN BE REMOVED, SUB-
STITUTING "DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" AND IF
AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED FOR THE U.S. BY A CIVILIAN
OFFICIAL WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE COAST GUARD.

3. COMMENT/ACTION REQUESTED: WE HAD ASSUMED THAT DRAFT
AGREEMENT HAD BEEN CLEARED WITH ALL PARTS OF GOS (INCLUD-

ING MFA) PRIOR TO SUB-SECRETARY MORO'S PROVIDING FINAL
COPIES TO CMDR. NOLAN ON MAY 8 FOR ADMIRAL WOOD'S
SIGNATURE. HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE THE CASE,
OR ELSE THE MFA IS HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS.
WE BELIEVE THAT SPANISH OFFICIALS FULLY UNDERSTAND
NON-MILITARY NATURE OF USCG, WHICH EMBASSY HAS REPEATEDLY
EXPLAINED AND WHICH ADMIRAL SILER COVERED IN DETAIL
DURING HIS OCTOBER 1977 VISIT TO MADRID. HOWEVER,
SENSITIVITY OF CANARIES PROBLEM IS SUCH THAT GOS IS
APPREHENSIVE ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF
AN INSTALLATION THERE INVOLVING US UNIFORMED PERSONNEL.
IF PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION IN PARA 2 IS ACCEPTABLE,
PLEASE PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH NAME AND TITLE OF OFFICIAL
WHO WOULD SIGN AGREEMENT FOR US. WE WILL THEN TYPE NEW
DRAFT WITH NECESSARY CHANGES AND PRESENT IT TO MFA
FOR APPROVAL. EATON

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Message Attributes

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